

## A SURVIVOR'S STORY

A sex-trafficked survivor and resident at The House of Promise shares her personal search for safety, love, and healing through faith.

I spent years having flashbacks with no one to help me feel safe. During the day, I would have sudden violent flashbacks where I had to be restrained and thrown into an empty room that was cold and lonely. I have woken up in my own sweat from nightmares. Even when I got married I had them and I would freeze with fear. Self-harm became a coping mechanism to what my mind could not process.

I became addicted to pornography because I still had sexual desires that were awakened in me against my will from when I was just a kid.

Before THOP, I had lived on high alert for most of my life, always looking over my shoulders fearing that one of my abusers would find me.

[As a survivor], I know that no amount of therapy alone can set us (survivors) completely free. I have spent 37 years trying to understand this. We need to be held—even through violent flashbacks; we need a constant sense of safety and we need to be loved unconditionally. But most of all, we need a personal encounter with God.

I am so glad The House of Promise has become a reality!

Survivor. Resident at The House of Promise

# THE UGLY TRUTH

Each year, as many as **100,000–300,000** American children are at risk of being trafficked for commercial sex in the U.S.



Michigan ranks 7th for the presence of human trafficking, and in 2021 alone. 10.359 instances of human trafficking involving 16,554 victims were reported to the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline.



"Every girl deserves to feel safe and loved. Every woman deserves an opportunity to heal and to find her purpose."

Shari Montgomery

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

It all started back in 2012, when the vision to provide a safe home for rescued sex-trafficked women was born in my heart. Fast-forward to today and that vision is now a reality. All the planning, fundraising, saving, and praying has made it possible. We purchased the house in December 2017 and opened our doors to our first intake of residents in March of 2018.

Arriving with only the clothes on their back, the women who come into our program come broken, hopeless, and with a sense of being unworthy of love and care. We take them in, and through our robust program of counseling, therapeutic activities, academic support, medical care, and wholesome nurturing, we slowly but surely help them rebuild their lives. We have seen great results since we opened, and we are confident that those results are the by-product of the diligent work of our staff, and volunteers, and the effectiveness of our holistic approach—and we have only just begun to change lives!

Every girl deserves to feel safe and loved. Every woman deserves an opportunity to heal and to find her purpose. Every woman trapped under the claws of sex predators and traffickers deserves an opportunity to walk the journey from victim to survivor. The House of Promise is here for them—the abused, the vulnerable, the downtrodden. Help us bring hope and a promise of a better future, a safe future! Please join me by supporting and funding our program.

YOURS, SHARI MONTGOMERY

The average age a girl enters the commercial sex trade is 12–14 years old.

Women and Girls. disproportionately make up approximately 80% of the survivors identified by the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

It is estimated that 41% of child trafficking experiences are facilitated by family members and/or caregivers.



# WHO WE ARE

The House of Promise (THOP) is a 501c3 non-profit organization involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of female victims and survivors of sex-trafficking. We operate with a Board of Directors that provides oversight of the direction and operations of THOP. Our program is run by a highly qualified staff and trained volunteers.

# WHAT WE DO

Our residential program focuses on addressing the physical, emotional and spiritual post-trauma needs of the survivors. Our staff provides guidance, attention, unconditional love to each resident and security that most of them have never known. The House of Promise provides a safe environment for them to heal and to grow into the women they were intended to be.

THOP is a two-year program. The program is structured to rehabilitate our residents through facilitating counseling and by teaching them skills for coping with the long-term effects of their trauma. Our curriculum facilitates personal growth and development so that our residents can become confident individuals and productive members of our society that can enjoy their freedom and know their worth.

# WILL YOU BE A COMMUNITY PARTNER?

Becoming a Community Impact Partner (annual sponsor) of The House of Promise is a meaningful way for individuals, businesses, and organizations to show their commitment to make a positive impact and to demonstrate their corporate social responsibility to keep our community safe and strong. Your sponsorship will not only increase public awareness of this heinous crime that exploits the most vulnerable in our society, but it will also underscore the importance of our mission. The needs of survivors are complex and unique to every case. Numerous therapy services essential for survivors are frequently not included in medical insurance coverage.

The approximate monthly cost of providing comprehensive care for the rehabilitation of a sex trafficking survivor in our program is \$5K. With the rising demand for our services, we're growing and expanding our capacity, but we cannot do it alone! Annual sponsors help us remain a safe place for women survivors to begin rebuilding their lives. In return for your investment into supporting survivors' journey from rescue to healing and independence, our annual sponsors are recognized throughout the year on our website, newsletter, social media, outreach opportunities, annual report and through our annual fundraising events. Make a lasting impact, become a Community Impact Partner!

### AS A COMMUNITY IMPACT PARTNER WE WILL:

### FOR A YEARLY COMMITMENT OF \$25,000

- Display your logo on THOP's homepage as a Platinum Community Impact Partner
- 10 Social media posts within 12 months recognizing you as our Community Impact Partner
- Display your logo on all TV ads for 12 months
- Display your logo on our monthly newsletter as a Platinum Community Impact Partner
- · Display your logo as an Event Sponsor for our annual Beauty for Ashes gala
- 16 Tickets to our Beauty for Ashes gala
- 2 Educational presentations to employees

### FOR A YEARLY COMMITMENT OF \$20,000

- Display your logo on THOP's homepage as a Gold Community Impact Partner
- 8 Social media posts within 12 months recognizing you as our Community Impact Partner
- Display your logo on all TV ads for 12 months
- Display your logo in our monthly newsletter as a Gold Community Impact Partner
- Display your logo as an Event Sponsor for our annual Beauty for Ashes gala
- One educational presentation to employees in 12 months
- · 12 Tickets to our Beauty for Ashes gala

### FOR A YEARLY COMMITMENT OF \$10,000

- · Display your logo on THOP's homepage as a Silver Community Impact Partner
- Display your logo on all TV ads for 12 months
- · Display your logo in our monthly newsletter as a Gold Community Impact Partner
- · 6 Social media posts within 12 months recognizing you as our Community Impact Partner
- Display your logo as an Event Sponsor for our annual Beauty for Ashes gala
- 8 Tickets to our Beauty for Ashes gala
- One educational presentation to employees

#### FOR A YEARLY COMMITMENT OF \$5000

- Display your logo or name on THOP's homepage for 12 months as a Bronze Community Impact Partner
- 3 Social media posts within 12 months recognizing you as our Community Impact Partner
- Display your logo or name in our monthly newsletter